

ratio of 1 lb. bluestone to 12 or 15 gallons water. Bluestone solution is rather soluble, and is easily washed off by rain. To guard against this the oil spray, if oil is being used, should be applied within a day or two of the bluestone application. While on the subject of black-spot it may be as well to mention that this disease is more particularly destructive during damp, misty weather, which often prevails in the spring and early summer. Where such conditions obtain extreme care is necessary in spraying operations to prevent an outbreak of the disease without at the same time damaging the fruit or foliage of the tree. Whether such conditions are to be experienced, however, cannot be judged until after the fruit and foliage have developed to that stage when the application of a strong spray would be dangerous. Therefore preventive measures in the form of a stronger spray applied earlier in the season are necessary. Undoubtedly the most favourable time for this work to be done is just after the buds burst and show colour, or as the most advanced come into full bloom. This state can be looked for during the months of September and October. The mixtures recommended for this spraying are Bordeaux mixture or lime-sulphur at the following strengths: Pear: Bordeaux, 6-4-40; lime-sulphur, 1 in 15. Apple: Bordeaux, 6-4-50; lime-sulphur, 1 in 25 to 1 in 30.

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## THE POULTRY-RUN.

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### BREEDING OPERATIONS.

Now that the breeding season is at hand provision should be made to have everything on the plant in connection with breeding operations in perfect order, so that this important work may be carried out to the best advantage. The first essential is to see that the breeding-stock are in the very pink of condition, for unless these are in a healthy thriving state it can only be expected that trouble will be met with both in the hatching and rearing of the young stock. In order that they may produce strong healthy chicks the breeding-birds should have a variety of foods. A common mistake made in this respect is to feed the one class of grain at all times. It should be remembered that a chicken is made up of many elements, and that the mother hen must be supplied with different foods that contain these if her offspring is to grow and develop to the best advantage. While sound and liberal feeding is imperative, no attempt should be made to produce a heavy egg-yield. Meat or its substitutes should be